

## House Resolution 143 - Introduced

### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 143

BY GASKILL, HEATON, DE BOEF, DRAKE, GARRETT,  
FORRISTALL, L. MILLER, RAYHONS, BAUDLER, WATTS,  
HUSEMAN, CHAMBERS, ALONS, LOFGREN, TJEPKES,  
ANDERSON, DEYOE, KOESTER, ROGERS, SCHULTE,  
FRY, SANDS, SODERBERG, COWNIE, GRASSLEY,  
JORGENSEN, VAN ENGELLENHOVEN, RASMUSSEN, HANUSA,  
DOLECHECK, SWEENEY, HAGENOW, BYRNES, HEIN, J.  
SMITH, VANDER LINDEN, T. TAYLOR, ABDUL-SAMAD,  
MASCHER, BERRY, COHOON, LYKAM, WINCKLER, LENSING,  
WESSEL-KROESCHELL, HUNTER, ISENHART, THEDE,  
H. MILLER, KEARNS, THOMAS, WITTNEBEN, WOLFE,  
RUNNING-MARQUARDT, STECKMAN, KAJTAZOVIC, HANSON,  
HALL, M. SMITH, R. OLSON, KRESSIG, GAINES, KELLEY,  
JACOBY, T. OLSON, MUHLBAUER, OLDSOON, PETERSEN, and  
MURPHY

1 A Resolution supporting the use of drug courts in the  
2 criminal justice system.  
3 WHEREAS, drug courts provide a proven budget  
4 solution that benefit all facets of society; and  
5 WHEREAS, drug courts are an essential component  
6 of the criminal justice system and save vast criminal  
7 justice and human services resources, keep families  
8 together, and keep individuals out of jail and engaged  
9 in their communities as productive, tax-paying  
10 citizens; and  
11 WHEREAS, drug courts are an effective tool in the  
12 human services and criminal justice system for saving  
13 money, saving families, reducing crime, and serving  
14 veterans; and

1 WHEREAS, results of more than 100 program  
2 evaluations and at least four meta-analytic  
3 studies have yielded definitive evidence that  
4 drug courts significantly improve substance-abuse  
5 treatment outcomes, promote permanency for children,  
6 substantially reduce drug abuse and crime, and do so at  
7 less expense than any other strategy; and

8 WHEREAS, drug courts facilitate communitywide  
9 partnerships, bringing together public safety, human  
10 services and public health professionals, and the  
11 court system in the fight against drug abuse and  
12 criminality; and

13 WHEREAS, the drug court movement in the United  
14 States has grown from the 12 original drug courts in  
15 1994, to over 2,600 operational drug courts; and

16 WHEREAS, there are currently at least 35 adult drug  
17 court, juvenile drug court, and family treatment court  
18 programs in the state of Iowa; and

19 WHEREAS, drug courts demonstrate that when one  
20 person rises out of drugs and crime, all persons  
21 benefit; and

22 WHEREAS, the time has come to put a drug court  
23 within reach of every eligible person in need; NOW  
24 THEREFORE,

25 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
26 That the House of Representatives declares that the  
27 month of May 2012 be established as a Drug Court Month,  
28 recognizing the significant contributions drug courts  
29 have made toward reducing substance abuse, crime, and  
30 recidivism while saving valuable resources.